

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Soft and flexible surgical soft tissue mesh comprising polyethylene yarns, wherein
the polyethylene yarns
 - (i) have a tensile strength of more than 1.0 GPa, determined as specified in ASTM D885M using a nominal gauge length of the fibre of 500 mm and a crosshead speed of 50%/min,
 - (ii) consist of polyethylene with a relative viscosity of more than 5 dl/g as measured on a solution of polyethylene in decalin with a concentration of 0.05% at 135°C according to ASTM D 4020, and
 - (iii) [[are]] include polyethylene sheath filaments and polyethylene core [[yarns]] filaments such that having a weight ratio between the sheath filaments and the core filaments is [[of]] below 5:1, and wherein
the core ~~is formed by~~ filaments [[that]] show no or only little substantially no adhesion to each other and the sheath filaments form [[is]] a substantially non-porous layer around the core filaments.
2. (original) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the mesh is knitted.
3. (previously presented) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the yarns have a weight ratio between the sheath and the core of below 3:1.
4. (previously presented) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the yarn comprises a medical drug.
- 5.- 9. (cancelled)

10. (new) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the sheath filaments are melt-adhered to one another.
11. (new) A polyethylene yarn comprising:
sheath filaments and core filaments each consisting of polyethylene with a relative viscosity of more than 5 dl/g as measured on a solution of polyethylene in decalin with a concentration of 0.05% at 135°C according to ASTM D 4020, wherein
the polyethylene sheath filaments and polyethylene core filaments are present in the yarn in a weight ratio of sheath to core filaments of below 5:1, and wherein
the core filaments show substantially no adhesion to each other and the sheath filaments form a substantially non-porous layer around the core filaments, and wherein
the yarn has a tensile strength of more than 1.0 GPa, determined as specified in ASTM D885M using a nominal gauge length of the fibre of 500 mm and a crosshead speed of 50%/min.
12. (new) The yarn according to claim 11, wherein the weight ratio of the sheath filaments to the core filaments is below 3:1.
13. (new) The yarn according to claim 11, wherein the weight ratio of the sheath filaments to the core filaments is below 2:1.
14. (new) The yarn according to claim 11, wherein the sheath filaments are melt-adhered to one another.
15. (new) A surgical mesh which includes a yarn according to claim 11.